and other backward classes, some reservation should be movided for women by the Government as a matter of principle. I would like the Hon. Prime Minister to give an assurance in this regard to the House.

[*English*]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): The matter is being examined.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let the Government make its stand clear, atleast, to the country and the House, if not to me.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already made his stand clear.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Our intentions are very good and the matter is being examined now.

Unauthorised Manufacture of Television Sets

186 SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss per year being incurred by the Government by unauthorised manufacture of television sets in Delhi and other parts of the country; and

(b) the action taken by the Government to check unauthorised manufacture of television sets?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a). Since unauthorised manufacture of TV sets is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to estimate total loss of Central Excise Duty per year being incurred by the government.

(b) All Central Excise Collectorates including Central Excise Collectorate, Delhi have been instructed to gear up their Anti-Evasion machinery and to launch a concerted drive against the tax evaders.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the "Jansatta" drew the attention of the Government in its issue of 11 November, but the Government says that it has no idea of it.

I would like to tell the Government that television is not Just a means of entertainment, but also is used for expansion of education and promotion of national unity, in addition to, working as a link between the Government and the people. In view of the above, will the Government please state the number of surveys conducted during last 2 to 3 years with their statewise details so as to close down illegal T.V. manufacturing units and raise country's revenue by detecting illegal and clandestine manufacture of T.V. sets.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not followed your question. Probably the Minister also has not followed it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SIMON MARANDI: How many

times has the Government got surveys conducted, statewise? But the hon. Minister says that it is not possible to estimate the total loss on this account.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Have you made any survey to find out? If so, how many times..

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, may I draw the attention of the Hon. Member that the question relates to clandestine activities – unauthorised manufacture of TV sets?

MR. SPEAKER: Have you surveyed that?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: How can I survey a clandestine activity? Nobody knows how much is being manufactured. (*Interruptions*) I can only say that we have an estimate. The estimate is that, at th moment, about 25 per cent of black–and–white TV sets produced are being produced through clandestine units, small units, which are not being taxed, which are not registered and which are not considered the regular channels for manufacture. This we are able to find out because out of the total number of black–and–white tubes which are manufactured, we find that one–fourth of them are not going into manufacture of TV sets in the organised sector. It means that the others are outside. This is the only estimate we have. I have no other way of knowing how much of it is clandestine at the moment.

MR SPEAKER: I think, there should be some way.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SIMON MARANDI: The Government does not know the details of illegal manufacture of T.V. sets. I would like to know, whether the Government is trying to improve the quality of black–white and colour T.V. sets, with a view to increasing export of T.V. sets. If so, what steps has the Government taken during the last three years in this regard?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is what steps have been taken to encourage the colour TV manufacture.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): These questions could perhaps be answered more easily by the I & B Minister.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: And Finance.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I do not know about Finance but I & B.

What is happening is that there is a clandestine activity. Clandestine activity is something one has to investigate, catch and so on. Now, I do not think, the Department of Electronics will be able to answer the question. I will take the questions. I will see if we can find answers and we will inform the Members.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Sir, the urban and rural people of India are very keen and crazy regarding use of TV. When the Government has adopted the Industrial Policy of privatisation, I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister as to whether or not the Government can consider giving relaxation on restricting the issue of licences.

If not, what steps or devices is the Government contemplating to check and prevent unauthoised manufacture of TVs in Delhi?